

The Flying Badger

440th Airlift Wing, General Mitchell ARS, Milwaukee Wisconsin

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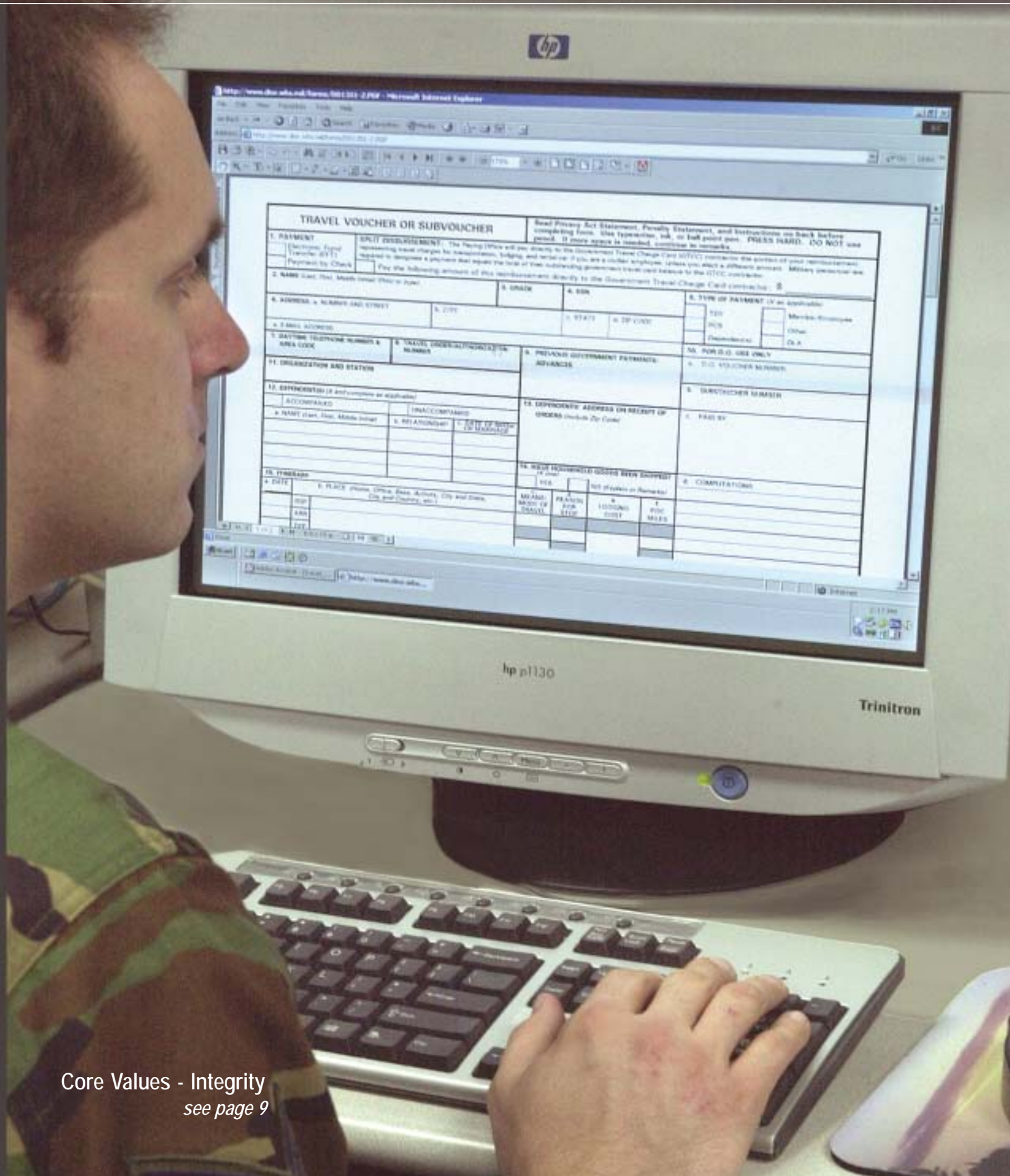




Photo by Staff Sgt. Pat Kuminecz

The Flying Badger is doing a three part series about Air Force core values: integrity, service before self and excellence in all we do.

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Are you ready? Fit to fight beginning

by Col. Michael L. Smith
440th Airlift Wing Commander

You've been hearing about the new Air Force fitness program during the last few months. I'm sure there's a mixed bag of reactions within the wing. For the many of you already committed to including a fitness regimen in your daily routine, the program is not threatening. On the other hand, those of you like myself who have grown accustomed to finding reasons why we can't fit regular exercise into our schedule, now are experiencing some anxiety.

That said, I see the fitness program as the right thing to do. For one, it eliminated the old weight management program – an ill-conceived initiative that did nothing for our health and arbitrarily favored one body type over another. More importantly, it's a motivator for those of us who know what we ought to be doing yet just aren't doing it albeit more of a kick in the pants than a nudge.

You can't have missed the fact that study after study over the past several decades point unmistakably to regular physical activity as the single biggest factor for improving longevity, preventing serious conditions such as coronary diseases and Type II diabetes, and maintaining mental capacities as we age.

Our chief of staff has correctly highlighted physical fitness as a readiness issue, as well. In the course of our military mission, we deploy to stressful environments and perform stressful activities. An acceptable level of fitness is much like an immunization – it significantly reduces a negative risk to our health (in this case, stress) and improves our ability to complete the mission and to return home without serious concerns.



The wing has some major hurdles to address in implementing the program - primarily time and location issues – but we will find solutions that work best for us. You just need to prepare yourself for the assessment; fitness doesn't happen overnight.

We do lead busy lives; as reservists, we do see more and more laid on us to accomplish. But the importance of the new fitness requirement is indisputable. I'll remind you that our last several presidents have understood the importance of exercise to insulate them from stress and have found time in their schedules to get it. You can, too.

So don't fight it. Solve your individual problems that stand in the way of regular exercise. Make it a priority; it's you who will benefit. Nike had it right in its ad campaign: Just Do It!

Command Post earns 22nd AF Award

The 440th Airlift Wing Command Post was recently named winner of the AFRC 2003 Small Unit Command Post of the Year and two of its staff members received individual honors.

Master Sgt. Jarrod Drevalas and Senior Airman Jannet Catalan received the AFRC 2003 Command Post NCO and Airman of the Year award, respectively.

"We're pleased about the recognition for the NCO and Airman awards," said Maj. James Murtha, chief, Command Post, "but we're most proud of the Command Post award because it recognizes the efforts of all those who contributed. It's a team award."

Murtha said the Command Post was undermanned much of the year and at one point became a "24-7 operation" for 11 weeks. He said the 440th Command Post's training program

became the AFRC benchmark following a staff assistance visit last year.

Murtha noted that the high operations tempo of 2003 placed high demands on the Command Post, as it did on other units. He added that the complexity of potential mobilization, contingency planning and then real-world deployments posed extraordinary challenges for the Command Post staff.

Additional members of the Command Post staff are: Senior Master Sgt. David Abuya, Staff Sgts. Patrick Josephs, Traci Guse and Rita Lemke, and Senior Airmen Eric Weiss and Julie Schwebke.

"I am extremely proud of the folks in the Command Post," said Commander Col. Michael Smith. "They are an excellent example of the high caliber people taking on extraordinary challenges within the wing."

Iraqi Freedom means long hours for activated reservists, abroad and home

by Staff Sgt. Steve Staedler

Deployed Airmen aren't the only ones working long hours in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Much of the 440th Airlift Wing's fleet of C-130 aircraft are flying missions around the clock in the Middle East – and those added flying hours are making for long hours for Airmen in the 440th aircraft maintenance areas.

"Basically every shop here is working 10 to 12 hours a day, six days a week," said Tech. Sgt. Jeffrey Evanson, maintenance scheduler for the

440th Maintenance Operations Flight (MOF). "When we get them back from the theater, we do the maintenance and probably a week or two later they'll be back over there again."

Just how much flying is being done by the wing's planes in the Middle East? In peacetime, C-130s from the 440th normally fly about one hour per day. In the past several months while deployed to the Middle East, that rate has jumped to three or four hours per day.

Although the increase may not seem that large, for technicians, it seems like the engines never have time to cool down.

"That's four times our normal flying," said Master Sgt. Michael Witchek, program analyst for the 440th MOF. "Every three months basically adds a year of flying to the airplane."

Technicians have their hands full when the planes rotate back from the Middle East. Tech. Sgt. Steven Beekman, maintenance controller with the same flight who deployed to the Middle East in mid-December, said the weather in theater when he arrived was rainy and

foggy. These conditions left the first returning aircraft extremely dirty. With weather conditions in the Middle East now turning warmer with blowing sand, technicians will focus their attention toward problems encountered in these conditions on aircraft flying home in the coming weeks.

"Due to the extensive flying over there, we have maintenance items that are coming due a year before they normally would," Evanson said. "In addition we have desert inspection requirements that have really taxed everybody back here in pretty much every shop."

Like many other Airmen in the wing, Witchek and Evanson are scheduled to deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. They are planning to leave this summer, and Beekman, who returned in February, is anticipating a second deployment later this year. Beekman said he and others who were deployed on the initial deployment in December have been preparing his co-workers on what to expect when they arrive in the Middle East.

"Was it what we expected out there? Yeah, I think it was," he said. "We didn't reinvent the wheel, it was just the workload was triple."

All three Airmen agreed there probably won't be any ease up in the heavy volume of work until the 440th's deployment to the Middle East ends. But despite the long hours, everyone has been doing their part to accomplish the mission.

"I think people have stepped up, no question about it," Evanson said. "The full-time people here (at Gen. Mitchell ARS) that weren't deployed in the first wave certainly provided the continuity, and reservists stepped right in and did what needed to be done."



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Bob Sommer

Master Sgt. Jason Busch (left) and Senior Airman Daniel Lambrecht, both with the 440th Maintenance Squadron, inspect an engine component prior to installing it on a C-130 aircraft. Busch has been activated and is expecting to be deployed to the Middle East later this spring.

Exhibiting *bright* future through history

Master Sgt. Georges Sanon, 440th Civil Engineers Squadron structures supervisor, recently finished his work on the rows of display cases in the wing auditorium bldg. 102. Sanon constructed, installed and finished the facing for the wing's Heritage Hall."

The hall will be home to a collection of memorabilia capturing the birth of the wing through its present-day mission and operations. Members walking through the future exhibit will find a chronological history defining the unit's role in supporting our country's peace and wartime efforts.

Grand opening plans are not yet decided but additional information will be announced as it becomes available. Questions and comments can be directed to Chief Master Sgt. Ed Thomas, 440th Military Personnel Programs, at Ext. 5304.

The display cases, which were Milwaukee Public Museum surplus, were donated last October.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Pat Kuminecz

Memoirs from the war

On a mission with a 440th navigator

by 1st Lt. Jaime Clark
440th Airlift Wing Navigator

The end of our first deployment is drawing near. Tired and homesick soldiers, sailors, and airmen are being replaced with fresh men and women, both American and Coalition. Our unit has had to transition from a wing engaged in training in Wisconsin to being part of an operating tactical unit in the desert. It is hard to describe how integrated our operations have become, and how our unit is just one part of an extremely large contingency that is changing history.

Every day we serve here we learn to appreciate what the other branches of the U.S. military are doing, and the responsibility that they shoulder from day-to-day. As aviators, we are in daily

contact with every branch of the US armed services in the Middle East. The basic crew of our C-130 Hercules transport aircraft consists of six flyers: two pilots, one engineer, one navigator, and two loadmasters.

The pilots, engineer, and navigator are in the front of the airplane, and the loadmasters are in back, in the cargo area. There is enough room on the flight deck to seat either additional crewmembers, or with the aircraft commander's approval, one or two passengers. For a lot of the crews here, it has become a ritual for us to invite a soldier up on the flight deck, offering them a first class seat in a C-130 Hercules.

The invitation gives our passengers a first hand view of what we see and encounter in our daily missions. Instead of riding in the noisy and

usually packed back of the "Herk" with the rest of the troops, they get to look at all of our gauges, the terrain, and experience a free roller coaster ride. While they are enjoying what is usually their first time in a C-130, we get to hear about their experiences in the war zone. As we hand them the headset, their eyes usually light up, excited to be part of the flight.

After getting acquainted, they tell us their war stories, what they saw, heard, and more importantly, experienced themselves. Then the conversation usually turns to their life back in the states. Popular topics revolve around their spouse, children, parents, friends, and above all, the plans they have when they are finally home! Many times we have transported a fellow Wisconsin or Illinois resident. Talk about a small



Photo submitted by deployed reservists

The 95th Airlift Squadron has flown many distinguished visitors into Iraq. From left, Pilot Maj. Rolf Breen, comedian Colin Quinn, Navigator 1st Lt. Jaime Clark, Engineer Chief MSgt. Al Hurlbutt and Aircraft Commander Maj. Keith Wesley. Quinn traveled to Iraq as part of a troop morale program.



Photo submitted by deployed reservists

Part of the 95th Airlift Squadron's mission is to transport troops and supplies throughout Southwest Asia, as in this photo taken in Iraq.

world! After we have landed, the headset is passed back, the troops file out the plane, and the next group arrives.

You would think it becomes routine; however, both the passengers and the crew depart feeling a sense of purpose and gratification - that we are all in this together - a united effort.

Even after flying countless missions over the desert, after each and every mission we fly, the patriotism for the U.S.A. continues to grow. Our appreciation also continues to grow for the soldiers around us. Some are fresh out of boot

camp, while others have been serving since Vietnam.

Regardless of how long they have been in, or what position they hold, the fact remains that they, like us, are away from their families. Some of the GIs have spent up to a year here, which, in retrospect, makes our first deployment seem much shorter.

Saying good-bye to the desert inspires excitement and restlessness. Before going home, the majority of people here count down the days until they can see their family and friends, get to

sleep in their own bed, and have other food experiences besides the chow hall. That is the excitement - when the end is in sight!

The restlessness comes when you know, even after you return home, that our mission continues in the Middle East. When our unit returns home, there will be more for us to do other than reacquainting with our family and friends. We are also going to be training as much as before, ensuring that we are combat ready for future missions in the desert.

Singing the Praises ~

Activated 440th reservist joins 'Desert Ensemble' Gospel Choir in Kuwait



In his free time, Tech. Sgt. Steve Grosshuesch (far right) sings in the 'Desert Ensemble' Gospel Choir at a Kuwait air base. Grosshuesch, the 440th Maintenance Squadron's Chief of Aerospace Ground Equipment, joined military members from McConnell, Yokota, and Peterson for a chapel musical ensemble during the "Praise is What We Do" concert.

Photo submitted by deployed reservists

Fitness program rolls out in May

by Staff Sgt. Steve Staedler

The much anticipated new physical fitness assessment could make its debut at Gen. Mitchell ARS next month. If logistical issues are not finalized during the April UTA, the start date for the fitness program could be pushed back to June.

The fitness program, consisting of four components – push-ups, crunches, an abdominal circumference measurement and a 1.5-mile timed run, is designed to improve the physical condition of reservists. Component scores, which vary according to age and gender, will be added to obtain an overall fitness score.

Since the new fitness program is a change from the previous three-mile walk assessment, reservists should start a light exercise program now and take a look at the requirements for their age and gender to successfully pass.

For more information reservists should see their first sergeant or access www.af.mil/news/USAF_Fitness_Charts.pdf.

The charts on the following pages show the new fitness requirements for males and females ages 30 to 34. Models are, Senior Airman Jeff Johnson, 440th Logistics Readiness Squadron, and Senior Airman Laura Renteria, 440th Medical Squadron.



Body Composition

Abdominal Circumference

<u>Inches</u>	<u>Points</u>
<32.5	30.00
32.50	28.75
33.00	27.50
33.50	26.25
34.00	25.00
34.50	23.75
35.00	22.50
35.50	22.35
36.00	22.20
36.50	22.05
37.00	21.90
37.50	21.75
38.00	21.60
38.50	21.45
39.00	21.30
39.50	21.25
40.00	21.00
40.50	18.00
41.00	15.00
41.50	12.00
42.00	9.00
42.50	6.00
43.00	3.00
>43.00	0.00

Muscle Fitness

Push-Ups

<u>Reps</u>	<u>Points</u>
>52	10.00
50-51	9.75
49	9.50
48	9.25
46-47	9.00
43-45	8.75
40-42	8.50
36-39	8.25
33-35	8.00
30-32	7.75
27-29	7.50
24-26	7.40
22-23	7.30
20-21	7.20
17-19	7.10
15-16	7.00
13-14	6.00
12	5.00
10-11	4.00
8-9	3.00
7	2.00
5-6	1.00
<5	0.00

Crunches

<u>Reps</u>	<u>Points</u>
>51	10.00
49-50	9.50
48	9.00
46-47	8.75
44-45	8.50
42-43	8.25
40-41	8.00
38-39	7.75
36-37	7.50
34-35	7.40
33	7.30
31-32	7.20
30	7.10
28-29	7.00
26-27	6.00
25	4.00
23-24	2.00
<23	0.00

Aerobic Fitness

1.5-Mile Run

<u>Time (min.)</u>	<u>Points</u>
<9:48	50.00
9:49-10:12	47.50
10:13-10:24	45.00
10:25-10:54	43.50
10:55-11:24	42.00
11:25-11:54	40.50
11:55-12:30	39.00
12:31-12:54	37.50
12:55-13:36	36.00
13:37-14:24	34.00
14:25-14:54	32.00
14:55-15:18	30.00
15:19-15:48	27.00
15:49-16:24	24.00
16:25-16:54	21.00
16:55-17:36	18.00
17:37-18:12	15.00
18:13-18:54	12.00
18:55-19:42	9.00
19:43-20:36	6.00
20:37-21:30	3.00
>21:30	0.00

The standard is set; where do you fall?

Body Composition

Abdominal Circumference

<u>Inches</u>	<u>Points</u>
<29.5	30.00
29.50	28.75
30.00	27.50
30.50	26.25
31.00	25.00
31.50	23.75
32.00	22.50
32.50	22.30
33.00	22.00
33.50	21.80
34.00	21.50
34.50	21.30
35.00	21.00
35.50	18.00
36.00	15.00
36.50	12.00
37.00	9.00
37.50	6.00
38.00	3.00
>38.00	0.00



Determining Fitness Score

Fitness level is determined by adding aerobic fitness, body composition, pushup, and crunch component points.

Members must complete *all* components unless medically exempted.

<u>Fitness Level</u>	<u>Total Score</u>
Excellent	> 90
Good	75 - 89.9
Marginal	70 - 74.9
Poor	<70

Aerobic Fitness

1.5-Mile Run

<u>Time (min.)</u>	<u>Points</u>
<11:54	50.00
11:55-12:30	47.50
12:31-12:54	45.00
12:55-13:12	43.50
13:13-13:36	42.00
13:37-14:24	40.50
14:25-14:54	39.00
14:55-15:18	37.50
15:19-15:48	36.00
15:49-16:24	34.00
16:25-16:54	32.00
16:55-17:36	30.00
17:37-18:12	27.00
18:13-18:54	24.00
18:55-19:42	21.00
19:43-20:36	18.00
20:37-21:30	15.00
21:31-22:30	12.00
22:31-23:36	9.00
23:37-24:48	6.00
24:49-26:06	3.00
>26:06	0.00

Muscle Fitness

Push-ups

<u>Reps</u>	<u>Points</u>
>40	10.00
39	9.75
37-38	9.50
35-36	9.25
33-34	9.00
29-32	8.75
26-28	8.50
23-25	8.25
20-22	8.00
17-19	7.75
14-16	7.50
12-13	7.40
11	7.30
10	7.20
9	7.10
7-8	7.00
6	6.00
5	5.00
4	4.00
3	3.00
2	2.00
1	1.00
0	0.00

Crunches

<u>Reps</u>	<u>Points</u>
> 42	10.00
41	9.50
40	9.00
37-39	8.75
35-36	8.50
33-34	8.25
31-32	8.00
29-30	7.75
27-28	7.50
25-26	7.40
23-24	7.30
22	7.20
20-21	7.10
18-19	7.00
16-17	6.00
13-15	4.00
11-12	2.00
<11	0.00

Illustrations by Staff Sgt. Pat Kuminecz

Flying Badgers give Secretary Tommy Thompson a lift

95th Airlift Squadron aircrew flies former Wisconsin governor Tommy Thompson to Baghdad

Activated members of the 440th Airlift Wing were proud to have Wisconsin's former "Top Badger" as a passenger during his recent visit to the Central Command area. Tommy Thompson, Secretary of Health and Human Services and former Governor of Wisconsin, visited Baghdad in late February.

By "pure coincidence," Wisconsin's own 95th Airlift Squadron C-130 crews flew Thompson in and out of Iraq. From left, Tech. Sgts. Paul Zenner, James Grigsby, and Robert Sczesny, Majs. Timothy Reynolds and John Schmidt, and Capt. Derek Poellet.



Photo submitted by Department of Health and Human Services

440th hits the road to help Army

by Elizabeth Stoeckmann and Heidi Bultman

Four vehicle operators from the 440th Logistics Readiness Squadron have been trained and sent to help the U.S. Army move people and cargo in Iraq on a one-year rotational tour.

Master Sgt. Thomas Gudex, Tech. Sgt. James Kasprzak, Senior Airmen Daniel Horn and Rusty Lison, along with several other Air Force Reserve Command reservists were activated Jan. 16 in response to the Army's request for transport specialists.

"This really demonstrates how our reservists go above and beyond what is expected when they sign on the dotted line," said Tech. Sgt. Thomas Yurchak, an LRS inventory management specialist who was activated for base support.

In order to be fully qualified to conduct transportation missions in a hostile environment, reservists attended the Army's vehicle operations courses at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., in January and Fort Dix, N.J.'s Air Mobility Warfare Center in February.

The first course included training in contingency operations, driving 5-ton trucks and tractor-trailer vehicles, and basic convoy and night vision operations. In the second course, the reservists received advanced training, including combat tactics, survival training and Global Positioning System mapping technology.

"Citizen Airmen balance the demands of their military service with those of their families and civilian employers," said Col. Elizabeth Grote, AFRC's director of Logistics.

"This is a total force effort, and our people are doing a terrific job to make this mission a success."

Anyone interested in sending letters of support to the deployed 440th LRS members, can mail them directly to 440th Airlift Wing/LRS, Attention TSgt. Tom Yurchak, 300 E. College Ave., Milwaukee, WI 53207-6299, and they will be forwarded to their deployed location.



Submitted photo

Five 440th members recently participated in a three-day Congressional orientation held in Washington, D.C. Pictured in the Valor room of the Pentagon are (l-r) Staff Sgts. Daniel Casara, Dawn Putzke, Sean Goggins, and Keith Battles, and Master Sgt. Jarrod Drevalas. The orientation provided the members a brief glimpse into how AFRC fits in to the Air Force and DoD picture. They attended informational sessions and toured the Pentagon and Capitol, and went on a walking tour of the White House, and several national monuments. The Congressional orientation program is offered four times a year and is open to all enlisted personnel. Interested individuals should contact their unit first sergeants.

Integrity first ...

First Air Force Core Value means doing the right thing, even when no one else is looking

by Dennis J. Mehring

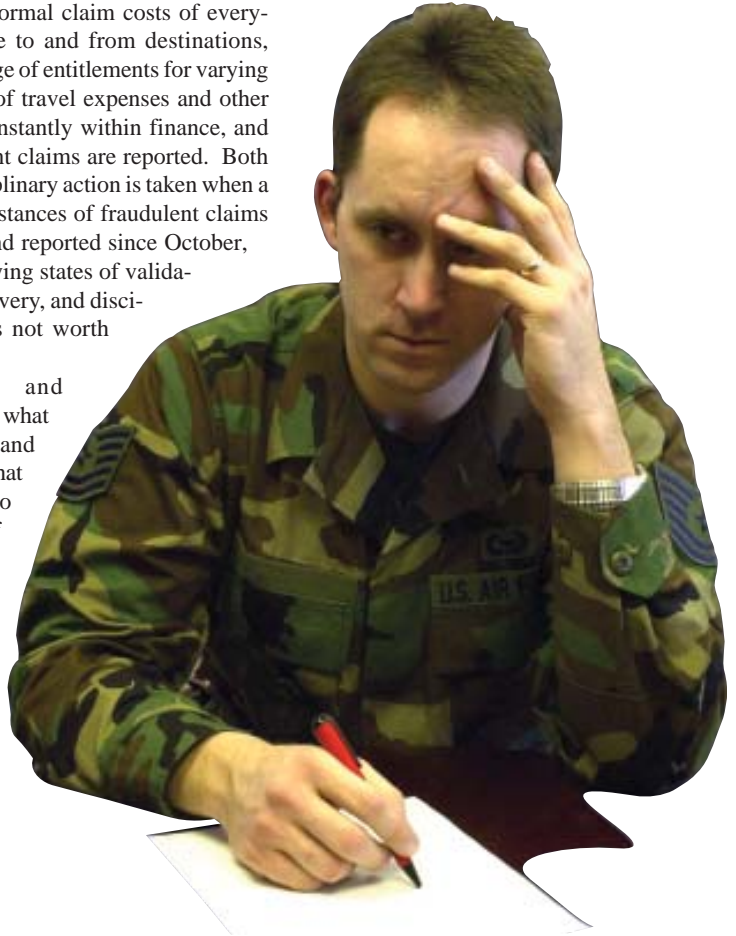
The rotation of mobilized reservists into and out of duty stations overseas has begun in earnest so this seems to be a good time to remind returning reservists about how they can protect their reputations, the reputations of their families and the integrity of their unit.

A particularly observant person once said that integrity is doing the right thing even when nobody is looking. Even though many people are looking, somebody always seems tempted to put a little something extra on his or her claim voucher. They've been away from home for months, missed Christmas, lived in less than ideal conditions, worked long hours, froze or fried various portions of their anatomy and may have lost money in comparison to what they would have made at their civilian jobs. Their spouse and kids might have had problems while they were gone. It is understandable how some people might think that they are entitled to get a little something extra back for all that. The people who are swayed by that kind of argument are putting their names, their reputations, and their careers at risk.

The Financial Services office processes thousands of travel vouchers every month, and each one is reviewed manually. The staff has a

good feel for the normal claim costs of everything from mileage to and from destinations, through the full range of entitlements for varying situations. Audits of travel expenses and other claims are done constantly within finance, and suspected fraudulent claims are reported. Both monetary and disciplinary action is taken when a fraud is proven. Instances of fraudulent claims have been found and reported since October, and they are in varying states of validation, monetary recovery, and disciplinary action. It's not worth the risk.

Be honest and prudent. Claim only what you are entitled to and if you are not sure what you are entitled to ask the Finance staff members for guidance. Keep your good name, your career, and your integrity intact.



“Character comprises the emotional, intellectual, and moral qualities that distinguish one group from another — and the judgment to discern them. Our core values and the unique demands of military service under gird our Air Force character. These values — integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all we do — endure as the fundamental standards of behavior of our Air Force team.”

Gen. John P. Jumper, Air Force chief of staff

The penalties for fraud in the military range from...

- Court martial
- Jail time
- Felony charge on record
- Fines up to \$10,000
- Dishonorable discharge
- Loss of rank
- Forfeiture of pay

Newcomers

The 440th welcomes the following reservists to the wing:

Capt. Julianna L. Olson	440 MDS
SSgt. Christopher E. Rayburn	34 APS
SrA Richard Marshall	440 SFS
SrA Nicole R. Kuhl	440 MDS
SrA Juanita A. Brankin	440 LRS
SrA Joel Brankin	440 CES
SrA Yokona S. Bell	440 LRS
A1C Ryan C. Regan	440 MXS
A1C Daniel C. Meeks	440 MXS
Amn Latasha M. Walker	440 MOF

Retirements

SMSgt. Ramon Galaviz	440 MDS
MSgt. Richard L. Dehart	440 MDS
MSgt. Lynn P. Landowski	440 MXS
MSgt. Robert R. Redmerski	440 SPTG
TSgt. Spencer R. Gibson	440 LGS
TSgt. Ricardo T. Storey	440 CES

Promotions

SMSgt. Raymond J. Korizon Jr.	440 MOF
SMSgt. Donald J. Olsen	440 MXS
MSgt. Daniel L. Yutzy	440 MXS
MSgt. Erich W. Uebersohn	440 SVF
MSgt. Tracy J. Schroeder	440 MXS
MSgt. David B. Schramm	440 MDS
MSgt. Paul J. Sackmann	440 CES
MSgt. Marlene A. Moore	440 MDS
MSgt. William A. Mezel, Jr.	440 SFS
MSgt. Jay E. McClain	440 AW
MSgt. Kenneth W. Erickson	440 CES
MSgt. Jarrod A. Drevalas	440 AW
TSgt. Randy P. Schuett	440 MXS
TSgt. Joan M. Tamboli	34 APS
TSgt. Bryan J. Nowak	34 APS
TSgt. Thomas J. Gallagher	440 CES
SSgt. Chad P. Wendt	95 AS
SSgt. Laura R. Knetzger	440 MDS
A1C Elizabeth A. Saltigerald	440 SFS

First sergeant's selection board meets

A first sergeant's selection board will meet Sunday, May 2 to select new first sergeants. According to 440th personnel officials applicants must be master sergeants or technical sergeants eligible for promotion to master and must be promoted before attending the AFRC First Sergeant Academy. Successful candidates must agree to attend the Academy within 12 months from the date of appointment. Applicants must complete the command NCO Academy resident course or correspondence course before applying. Any unit member who wants to apply should pick up a first sergeant application package from Military Personnel, building 101. For more information on eligibility criteria and the selection process call Tech. Sgt. Ann Incrocci or Master Sgt. Terry Harmon at 482-5323.

Fund raising events to be held

Several fund raising events have been scheduled this year to help pay for the Oak Creek U.S. Veterans Memorial that will be built on the northeast corner of Rawson Ave. and S. 6th St.

The Oak Creek Veterans Memorial Committee has a golf tournament scheduled for May 22 at South Hills Country Club and a run/walk on Sept. 11.

The South Hills golf tournament will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Entry fees are \$90 per person and is open to men and women. The fee includes a continental breakfast, a golf cart, lunch on the turn and a dinner. Door prizes will be given out, and there will be a million dollar prize and a new car awarded for a hole-in-one at two different holes.

The walk/run will charge a \$45 entry fee. Prizes will be awarded for the best times in a number of entry categories.

For more information on these events call Gene Gosline at (414) 764-8974. Donations to the fund can be sent to the Oak Creek Veterans Memorial, Attn: Treasurer Veterans Memorial, 9327 S. Shepard Ave., Oak Creek WI 53154.

Re-enlist with the Brewers

The 440th Airlift Wing is taking part in a Milwaukee Brewers re-enlistment program May 15 at Miller Park.

The re-enlistment ceremony, involving military members from all service branches, will take place prior to the 6:05 p.m. game between the Brewers and Atlanta Braves.

Reservists interested in participating in the re-enlistment ceremony should submit their names to their unit commander or Lt. Col. Larry Guenther, who can be reached at (414) 482-5401. For more information on the event, call Capt. Erica Cashen at (414) 482-6169.

ROA scholarships available

ROA Chapter 45 is offering two scholarships in 2004: The Samuel Keene Memorial Scholarship totaling \$1,000 (\$500 donated by the Keene family and \$500 donated by Chapter 45). ROA's Dr. Rana Health Scholarship, worth \$1,000, will be available for the first time this year. Enlisted reservists may pick up scholarship applications in their orderly rooms. For more information, contact Capt. Scott Jones at (414) 482-6455.

Outdoor Recreation opens for season

The 440th Services Squadron is now taking reservations to rent outdoor recreation equipment. Items such as camper trailers, tents, camping packages, boats, coolers and sporting goods are available to reserve for up to three months in advance. Club members receive an extra 10 percent off rental rates. For more information, call (414) 482-5705.

AF Assistance Fund campaign begins

Donations are being accepted through May 2 for the Air Force Assistance Fund (AFAF). This year's campaign theme is "Commitment to Caring."

AFAF benefits four charities: Air Force Aid Society, LeMay Foundation, Air Force Enlisted Village Foundation, and Air Force Village Indigent Widows' Fund.

Reservists are eligible for Air Force Aid Society benefits when they are away from home station on extended active duty for 15 days or more, or after a period of activation.

Ten Gen. Henry "Hap" Arnold commemorative coins will be presented to the top contributors throughout the base.

Donations, which are tax deductible, must be made by cash or check payable to the Air Force Assistance Fund. Every dollar donated to the Air Force Aid Society goes directly to its emergency assistance programs and not toward overhead and administrative costs.

Donation Boxes are placed in each squadron and monitored by the first sergeant. For more information, call Maj. Jenny Carpentier at (414) 482-5320.

USAF Band to perform April 23 in Oak Creek

The 440th Airlift Wing is hosting the United States Air Force Band and Singing Sergeants for a free concert at 7 p.m. Friday, April 23, at Oak Creek High School, 340 E. Puetz Road, Oak Creek. Based in Washington, D.C., the Air Force Band and Singing Sergeants is the premier band of the United States Air Force. The 65-member band will perform a wide variety of music from light classics, popular favorites, instrumental features and patriotic selections.

The concert is free and open to the public. Tickets will be required for entrance and are available in the Public Affairs Office, the Oak Creek Community Center, Oak Creek High School and the Oak Creek Public Library.

Spring Fling at The Drop Zone

Come join The Drop Zone and enjoy a night of karaoke entertainment, 5 to 9 p.m. Saturday, April 3. The Drop Zone's Spring Fling features door prizes and other special surprises. The Drop Zone has also produced several winners for Air Force-level contests. In the past two years Master Sgt. Thomas Donnelly and Tech. Sgt. Angela Gentry won trips to the Super Bowl and Pro Bowl, respectively. Staff Sgt. James Kasprzak also won a \$500 travel package. The next winner could be you.

Diverse faiths require 'ministry of presence'

By Capt. Keith Leistekow

Personnel records disclosed that the 440th Airlift Wing's 1,350 members cited 59 different religious preferences.

In light of this fact, wing members will find 440th chaplains Capt. Derek Wolter and Maj. Francis Malloy practicing what they refer to as a "ministry of presence."

"Most members look to their home clergy (i.e., pastors, priests, rabbis, etc.) for their religious needs," said Wolter. "It is our role as chaplains to ensure that members' constitutional right and needs of religion are met. We attempt to make religion and personal expression of faith a continuing presence no matter where our military member is stationed."

"Although we are not expected to work beyond our given faith's practices," said Malloy, "we do make contact and foster relations with various faiths within the local communities. Clergy Day activities and a unit visitation program both afford reservists and their associated clergy the opportunities to get to know us."

Fostering such relations is essential as part of the chaplains' contingency plans in the case of an unforeseen event involving a member of a particular faith, said Malloy.

"If we have built a good program at home station, we are able to expand on what we've done in real-world deployments to better meet members' faith needs," said Wolter.

"Our purpose doesn't change but people's needs do during real-world situations. In reality, we just become more visible."

"Originally, I came into the chaplain's service to keep an edge in my own ministry," said Wolter, about his choice to become a reserve chaplain. "It challenges me in what I believe

as well as gives me the opportunity to work in a community with varying backgrounds and experiences of faith. I find it provides me a positive effect outside the safety zone of my denominational ministry."

"It is our role as chaplains to ensure that members' constitutional right and needs of religion are met. We attempt to make religion and personal expression of faith a continuing presence no matter where our military member is stationed."

- Chaplain (Capt.) Derek Wolter

DIVERSITY: Seeing things from a different perspective.



There was a time when the thought of women in military service was unheard of. Conventional wisdom had it that men fought wars and women shouldn't be put in harm's way. Women now comprise 15 percent of the 1.4 million active duty personnel. In the Air Force, they tally 19 percent of active duty and 22 percent of Reserve members; 99 percent of AFSCs are open to females. The 440th Airlift Wing counts 19 percent of officers and 18 percent of enlisted members on the distaff side. Within the wing, women are C-130 co-pilots, navigators and loadmasters; command three groups; head the Public Affairs office; and serve in key roles in every unit. The so-called weaker sex has demonstrated that its dedication, commitment and performance are anything but weak. Given the opportunity, women answered the call to serve and have done so with distinction.

Diversity ... isn't it great?!

SrA Dekole Branch (left), 440th Services Flight services technician, and Lt. Col. Liesa Roelke, 440th Maintenance Group deputy commander



DIFFERENT. DISTINCT. DIVERSIFIED.

“Get One” program pays dividends



Photo by Joann Linder

Dillon Briesemeister was at the Cudahy YMCA when he saw Col. Mike Pierce in uniform. He struck up a conversation with Pierce and began asking questions about the Air Force Reserve. Pierce recognized a “Get One” opportunity and offered a base tour to the interested young man. They arranged to meet over the February UTA. Pierce gave Briesemeister a tour and the rest is history. Briesemeister was eager to get the enlistment process started.

He met with Master Sgt. Robert Flores, 440th Airlift Wing recruiter, Feb. 10 for his initial interview. The following day Briesemeister and his parents met with Flores to sign the enlistment papers. He took the ASVAB test and physical Feb. 19-20, and qualified for an AFSC that he was anxious to get in to – firefighting. He scheduled March 3 as the date for his oath of enlistment and had one request: that Pierce administer the oath. Briesemeister leaves for basic training two weeks after he graduates from high school.

Kyle Kohnke is a new member of the 440th Airlift Wing, thanks mainly to his dad, Chief Master Sgt. Steven Kohnke, 440th Logistics Readiness Squadron supply superintendent.

Kyle, 17, a senior at Oak Creek High School, and his mom Mary initially met with Master Sgt. Robert Flores, a 440th recruiter, on Feb. 4; he took the ASVAB test and physical exam soon thereafter. Kyle opted for the vehicle operations career field and will leave for basic training a week after graduating from high school. He intends to further his education by using the Montgomery GI Bill and the GI Bill Kicker, which provides an additional \$350 per month. Col. Michael Smith, 440th Airlift Wing commander, administered the oath of enlistment to Kyle March 5.



Submitted photo

As you can see from the articles on this page, the “Get One” program really works. In some cases all it requires is to be in the right place at the right time. If you would like more information about the program, contact Master Sgt. Robert Flores at 482-5135.

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